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**United States Patent** [19]

Blair et al.

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[54] **MULTI-PURPOSE HANDLE/PROP FOR  
PEN-BASED COMPUTER HAVING  
OVERHANGING FRONT SURFACE**

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[\*] Notice: The portion of the term of this patent  
subsequent to Aug. 10, 2010 has been  
disclaimed.

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

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5,323,290, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 947,431,  
Sep. 21, 1992, Pat. No. 5,235,495.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... **H05K 5/02; G06F 1/16**

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **361/681; 361/683;**  
**220/756; 220/762; 248/921; 16/126; 345/905**

[58] Field of Search ..... **220/756, 761-764;**  
**206/45.18; 294/142, 169; 16/126, 321-326;**  
**248/455, 674, 917-923; 74/523, 527, 528, 536;**  
**364/708.1; 345/169, 905; 312/223.1, 223.2, 244;**  
**361/679-686, 724-727, 730, 752, 755, 796, 825,**  
**829; 235/1 D**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An improved handle/prop is provided for a pen-based computer wherein the handle/prop is pivotally mounted to opposite side edges of the computer. The handle/prop can be pivoted and locked into a plurality of different positions. These positions are selected to facilitate carrying the computer, supporting the computer on a flat surface in one or more inclined positions for writing and/or viewing, and holding the computer during writing. In particular, to facilitate writing on the computer screen while holding the computer, the handle/prop is mounted so that it can be swung into a recessed position behind an overlapping portion of the front display surface. This will minimize the size of the computer and minimize interference with holding the computer and writing on its screen at the same time.

**9 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets**